## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: § §

Serial No.: 10/591,341

§ §

Filed: August 31, 2006 § Group Art Unit: 3773

§ §

For: SUTURE MANIPULATING

AND CUTTING IMPLEMENT §

Attorney Docket: 32176

Examiner: MASHACK Mark F.

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

# SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Enclosed is a PTO Form 1449 which lists citations which may be material to the patentability and examination of the above identified application. Also enclosed are copies of the references cited, other than U.S. Patents and U.S. patent applications. These are submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 CFR 1.56, 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98. The Examiner is requested to make these citations of official record in this application.

The undersigned states:

### A. NO CERTIFICATION OR FEE DUE

This Information disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of filing a national application or entry of a national phase of an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits of the above-identified application. Accordingly, no fee or Certification is believed due. However, if a fee is due, authorization to deduct such fee from the Deposit Account 501407 of the undersigned is hereby provided.

#### B. CERTIFICATION

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

## C. FEE

Please charge the fee of \$180 set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) to Deposit Account 501407.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.56 is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional matter which is material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that any one or more of the citations listed constitutes prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. 102.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims, and sign the enclosed form PTO-1449 to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application. Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his/her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

Respectfully submitted,

/Jason H. Rosenblum/

Jason H. Rosenblum Registration No. 56,437

Date: 17 December 2011